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## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 21, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DEBBIE DINGELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Be gracious to these, our lawmakers, O God. Shower Your mercy on them as they continue to take on the challenges of their office.

Schedules press on them; obligations pursue them all the day long. No one more than You knows the pace they keep, the long days and restless nights, the unrelenting schedule they juggle to master, and the countless and circuitous flights home to their districts.

In You may they find their respite. Keep their feet from falling, that they may walk before You in the light You shine on their lives.

In You may they place their trust. Keep their consciences clear and their motives pure as You guide their decisions.

In You may they be assured that their worries and concerns are known. Keep them in Your care, that nothing can snatch them from Your hand.

To You, then, may they turn, confident of Your deliverance and sure in the stamina You provide. To You may they offer their praise, and to Your Word may they turn.

In Your saving name we pray.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. VARGAS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CODY LYSTER

(Mr. CROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize the life of Cody Lyster, son of Kevin and Lea Ann Lyster, of Aurora, Colorado.

Cody passed away on April 8, 2020, and is Colorado's second youngest victim to die from COVID-19. He was a criminal justice major at Colorado Mesa University, following in his father's footsteps to become a law enforcement officer.

Cody was an avid baseball player. As a freshman, Cody was named team captain of his school's club baseball team,

a first for Colorado Mesa University history. He helped others through his love for the game and had a knack for bringing people together and could be counted on during times of calm and times of crisis.

Cody made his community better. In his honor, a \$1 million scholarship was established at Colorado Mesa University, and a sportsmanship award and scholarship at Arapahoe Little League were dedicated to a life well-lived.

Cody was an inspiration to others, and I can think of few as deserving of this honor today. I honor Cody and thank the Lysters for drawing strength from tragedy to make sure Cody's story is heard and to save as many lives as they can during this pandemic.

### CONGRATULATING DRIPPING SPRINGS FOR TAKING 5A SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

(Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Dripping Springs Tigers women's soccer team for their outstanding win in the UIL Class 5A final.

Dripping Springs finished the season as the Class 5A State Champion with a record 26 wins. They outscored their opponents this season 104-8.

The team showcased their amazing talent and skills on the field, and I am proud that all of their hard work and dedication throughout the year ultimately paid off.

Congratulations again to the Dripping Springs Tigers. Texas' 25th Congressional District is extraordinarily proud of their achievement, and we cannot wait to see what they will do next. Go Tigers.

In God We Trust.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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## MUSLIM TRAVEL BAN

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, the Muslim ban enacted under the previous administration is a stain on our country and our Nation's history. As we work to rebuild a humane and just immigration system, we must start by outlawing any type of this State-sanctioned religious bigotry. We do that today by passing the NO BAN Act.

This bill strengthens the Immigration and Nationality Act by banning discrimination on the basis of religion. Importantly, it will prevent any future President from enacting something like the Muslim ban in the future by placing appropriate checks and balances on the President's authority in this area.

Discrimination based on religion is not who we are as a nation. Today, we can take the first step towards a more just and humane immigration system, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the NO BAN Act.

## HONORING J. MICHAEL MYER

(Mr. MCKINLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Mike Myer of Wheeling, who passed away earlier this year.

Besides being a loving husband and father, Mike was an incredibly gifted editor at the Ogden newspaper chain and was a personal friend. Over the years, Mike and I had lively discussions on politics, the fossil fuel industry, and what would make West Virginia better. He was both a pragmatic and authentic editor, and he cared deeply for the livelihoods of men and women in the coal and natural gas fields of our valley.

Out of frustration, Mike would repeatedly ask why Members of Congress would intentionally inflict harm on so many of these families. His passion was his community and the people who lived there.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Connie, and their two children and two grandchildren as we all mourn Mike's passing.

Mike, you made a difference. You are already missed.

## TRI-CAUCUS RESOLUTION ON COVID-19 VACCINE EQUITY

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, as chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, I rise today to join my colleagues in the Tri-Caucus to ensure equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine for communities of color.

While we are all equally susceptible to the coronavirus, we are not all equally impacted by it. Communities of color are disproportionately likely to be in frontline jobs with greater exposure to the virus; have less access to quality healthcare; and, as a result, have been experiencing higher infection and mortality rates throughout the pandemic.

With over 150 deaths per 100,000 cases, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have one of the highest mortality groups of all groups from this virus.

That is why we will be introducing a resolution to address this. If we rely on communities of color to get us through this pandemic, then we need to ensure they are provided equitable access to the vaccine so they can stay healthy. We must ensure all Americans have an equal shot to be vaccinated.

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD GOES TO CONGRESSMAN BOBBY SCOTT

(Mr. WITTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend, Congressman BOBBY SCOTT, on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University on April 15, 2021.

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an individual Virginian whose career represents the highest values of public service and citizenship, and who has made a substantial contribution to the good of the Commonwealth.

Congressman BOBBY SCOTT is incredibly deserving of this recognition and award. He has spent more than four decades in public service, serving in the Virginia General Assembly for 15 years prior to being elected, and now serving Virginia's Third District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he has been since 1992.

It is my honor to serve the Commonwealth of Virginia with a servant leader like BOBBY SCOTT. We share the same desire to work tirelessly for Virginians and to advocate for the needs of the Commonwealth.

Please join me in congratulating BOBBY SCOTT on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award and in thanking him for his dedicated service on behalf of all Virginians.

## PROMOTING COVID-19 VACCINE EQUITY AMONG COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of a resolution promoting COVID-19 vaccine equity among communities of color.

Communities of color continue to be disproportionately impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, highlighting longstanding health, social, and economic inequities.

The resolution calls for the prioritization of areas with a high Social Vulnerability Index, SVI, for COVID-19 vaccination efforts and working with trusted community partners to implement culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies, among other efforts.

The resolution is going to be introduced during this month of April, during the National Minority Health Month to promote the health and well-being of racial and ethnic minority communities and to underscore the need for these communities to get vaccinated.

Vaccinate, vacunen. It is very important that they get vaccinated, es muy importante que se vacunen.

Madam Speaker, vaccinate yourself. It is very important.

I am so proud to support this resolution.

## 106TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

(Mr. VALADAO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 106th anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, the Ottoman Empire engaged in the systematic and organized murder and deportation of an estimated 1.5 million Armenians.

Around the world, leaders have rightly identified these horrific events as genocide. However, despite both the House of Representatives and the Senate passing resolutions in 2019 recognizing this tragedy, no United States President has ever joined in this acknowledgment.

This week, I and my colleagues in the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues sent a letter to President Biden urging him to formally recognize the Armenian genocide.

Many of the men, women, and children forced to flee Armenia immigrated to the United States and have raised their families and embraced their new communities in our country. They deserve our recognition.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering those whose lives were lost and forever changed by the Armenian genocide.

## AFGHANISTAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the President's decision to end the war in Afghanistan.

Now Congress must ensure that future Commanders in Chief can never